Contact: Burson Taylor, (Blunt), (202) 226-7022 Lisa Miller (Barton), (202) 225-5735

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE GASOLINE PRICE REDUCTION ACT OF 2004

The bill provides the administrator the Environmental Protection Agency, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, several avenues in working to reduce gasoline prices.

Section 1:

1) The EPA administrator may waive the provisions of any state implementation plan regarding fuels or fuel additives in the event of a significant fuel supply disruption.

Section 2:

- 1) The EPA administrator, in the case of gasoline, when approving state implementation plans, may give a preference to plans that require the use of either of three different gasolines.
- 2) This section caps the number of fuels or fuel additives approved in all state implementation plans nationwide as of June 1, 2004.
- The section requires the EPA administrator, in cooperation with the Secretary of Energy, to undertake a study to determine the effect of state plan provisions on air quality, the number of fuel blends, on fuel availability and on fuel costs.
- 4) The study results are to be submitted to the Congress within 18 months of enactment, with suggested legislative changes to the list of preferred fuels, which, if expanded, shall not exceed 10 fuels.